UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/L.33
21 August 1997

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 11

REVIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELDS WITH WHICH THE SUB-COMMISSION HAS BEEN OR MAY BE CONCERNED

Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Ali Khan, Ms. Attah, Mr. Bossuyt, Mr. Chernichenko, Mrs. Daes, Mr. Diaz Uribe, Mr. Eide, Mr. El-Hajjé, Mr. Fan, Mr. Fix Zamudio, Mr. Guissé, Mrs. Gwanmesia, Mr. Hatano, Mr. Khalifa, Mr. Maxim, Mr. Mehedi, Mr. Park, Mr. Shamshur, Ms. Warzazi, Mr. Weissbrodt and Mr. Yimer: draft resolution

1997/... Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Guided by the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations, particularly Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter, which stipulates that one of the Purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion,

Underlining the principle, as elaborated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993, that enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the Purposes of the United Nations,

Recognizing the importance attached by the regional meetings, held prior to the World Conference on Human Rights in Tunis from 2 to 6 November 1992, in San José from 18 to 22 January 1993 and in Bangkok from 29 March to 2 April 1993, of conducting dialogues and consultations with a view to promoting universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Acknowledging with great interest the strong views pronounced by members of the Sub-Commission concerning the urgent need to increase dialogue in the interest of the promotion of human rights in all countries,

Deeply concerned at the possibility of human rights issues being used for political purposes,

Welcoming the favourable conditions for international cooperation to promote human rights provided by the ending of the cold war,

Noting with appreciation the statement made on 5 August 1997 by the Chairman of the fifty-third session of the Commission on Human Rights, in which he recognized the importance of cooperation and consultation, as well as consensus-building with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Sub-Commission in promoting and protecting human rights,

1. Endorses the cooperative approach adopted by the members of the Sub-Commission, conducive to the accomplishment of its mandate;

2. Encourages further and timely dialogue, public or closed, among the expert members of the Sub-Commission, to facilitate the formulation and adoption of resolutions and decisions;

3. Invites members of the Sub-Commission and governmental and non-governmental observers to carry out constructive dialogue and consultations on human rights, so as to enhance understanding and to search for effective and commonly agreed solutions to the promotion and protection of human rights in all countries, taking into account the important role of the Sub-Commission as a "think-tank" in this regard;

4. Decides to continue its consideration of the promotion of dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights, under the agenda item entitled "Review of further developments in fields with which the Sub-Commission has been or may be concerned".